Psalm 1:1-3 with His Word Part 2

Warren W. Wiersbe, <u>Be Worshipful</u>, 1st ed., "Be" Commentary Series (Colorado Springs, CO: Cook Communications Ministries, 2004), 13–14.



Psalm 1 (NKJV)

- 1 Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
- 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night.
- 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.



The Person Who Is a Blessing (v. 3)

And so he is like a tree planted by brooks of water.

- The common name of brooks in Hebrew, as in Arabic and for streams. Riehm: "Because brooks and streams cleave and divide the surface of the earth."
- The double plural refers partly to the abundance of water, which is a very important part of the abundant distribution of brooks for the fructification of every tree.



"The fresh foliage is a figure of faith, which changes the water of life of the divine word into sap and strength, and the fruit is the figure of works which gradually ripen and spread their blessings around."

John Peter Lange et al., <u>A Commentary on the Holy Scriptures: Psalms</u> (Bellingham, WA: Logos Bible Software, 2008), 51–52.



The Person Who Is a Blessing (v. 3)

 God blesses us that we might be a blessing to others.

Genesis 12:2 (NKJV)

I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.



If all the blessings stay with us, then the gifts become more important than the Giver, and this is idolatry.

- We are to become channels of God's blessings to others.
- It's a joy to receive a blessing but an even greater joy to be a blessing.



"It is more blessed to give than to receive".

Acts 20:35 (NKJV)

I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'



The tree is a familiar image in Scripture, symbolizing both a kingdom and individual.

Kingdom - (Ezek. 17:24; Dan. 4; Matt. 13:32)

• Individual - (52:8; 92:12–14; Prov. 11:30; Isa. 44:4 and 58:11; Jer. 17:5–8; Matt. 7:15–23)



Balaam saw the people of Israel as a "garden by a river" with trees in abundance.

Numbers 24:5-7 (NKJV)

- **5** "How lovely are your tents, O Jacob! Your dwellings, O Israel!
- **6** Like valleys that stretch out, Like gardens by the riverside, Like aloes planted by the LORD, Like cedars beside the waters.
- 7 He shall pour water from his buckets, And his seed shall be in many waters. "His king shall be higher than Agag, And his kingdom shall be exalted.



Like A Tree, The Godly Person Is Alive, Beautiful, Fruitful, Useful, And Enduring.



The most important part of a tree is the hidden root system that draws up water and nourishment, and the most important part of the believer's life is the "spiritual root system" that draws on the hidden resources we have in Christ.



We Are To Be Rooted In Christ.

Ephesians 3:17 (NKJV)

that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

Colossians 2:7 (NKJV)

rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.



This Is Known As "Abiding In Christ"

John 15:1-9 (NKJV)

- 1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser.
- 2 Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit.
- 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.



- 4 <u>Abide in Me</u>, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.
- **5** "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who <u>abides</u> <u>in Me</u>, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.
- 6 If anyone does not <u>abide in Me</u>, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.
- 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.
- 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.
- 9 "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love.



In Scripture, Water For Drinking Is A Picture Of The Spirit Of God.

John 7:37–39 (NKJV)

- **37** On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.
- 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."
- 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.



In Scripture, Water For Drinking Is A Picture Of The Spirit Of God.

1 Corinthians 10:4 (NKJV)

and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.



Water For Washing Pictures The Word Of God.

Psalm 119:9 (NKJV)

How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.

John 15:3 (NKJV)

You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

Ephesians 5:26 (NKJV)

that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,



Thirst For Water Is An Image Of Thirst For God.

Psalm 42:1 (NKJV)

As the deer pants for the water brooks, So pants my soul for You, O God.

Psalm 63:1 (NKJV)

O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You In a dry and thirsty land Where there is no water.

Psalm 143:6 (NKJV)

I spread out my hands to You; My soul longs for You like a thirsty land. Selah

Matthew 5:6 (NKJV)

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.

Revelation 22:17 (NKJV)

And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.



The River Is Often A Picture Of God's Provision Of Spiritual Blessing And Help For His People.

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We Can't Nourish And Support Ourselves; We **Need To Be Rooted In Christ And Drawing Upon** His Spiritual Power.

- To meditate on the Word (v. 2) is one source of spiritual energy, as are prayer and fellowship with God's people.
- Trees may wither and die, but the believer who abides in Christ stays fresh, green, and fruitful.

Psalm 92:12-14 (NKJV)

- 12 The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, He shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- **13** Those who are planted in the house of the LORD Shall flourish in the courts of our God.
- 14 They shall still bear fruit in old age; They shall be fresh and flourishing,

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"Fruit" Speaks Of Many Different Blessings:

- Winning people to Christ (Rom. 1:13),
- Godly character (Rom. 6:22, Gal. 5:22–23),
- Money given to the Lord's work (Rom. 15:28),
- Service and good works (Col. 1:10),
- And praise to the Lord (Heb. 13:15).



- It's a tragedy when a believer ignores the "root system" and begins to wither.
- We must remember that the tree doesn't eat the fruit; others eat it.
- We must also remember that fruit isn't the same as "results," because fruit has in it the seed for more fruit.
- Fruit comes from life, the life of God flowing in and through us.

